

**Virginia Advisory Committee  
for the Education of the Gifted  
University of Richmond  
Keller Reception Room  
September 21, 2001**

Pre-Meeting Activities

The Virginia Advisory Committee for the Education of the Gifted met from 9:00 a.m. until 9:45 a.m. in Keller Hall to receive new members and to conduct orientation for them.

Meeting Minutes

Welcome, Introductions

The VACEG meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by VACEG Chair G. Hubbard. Chair Hubbard welcomed the committee and reviewed the agenda for the day's work. Subcommittee structure and purpose, in brief, was discussed. Requests for signal issues from committee members were made, and members were encouraged to respond and to write their ideas in note form for compiling and ordering.

Chair Hubbard noted that the meeting would be purposeful and punctual.

Two types of observers were called for.

- Timekeeper...keeps members/subcommittees on task within allotted times (S. Wadsworth volunteered to serve as timekeeper.)
- Process observer...observes how the group works to insure participation options (J. Leslie volunteered to serve as process observer.)

After observers were set, brief introductions were conducted, starting with the VACEG Executive Committee. Members present included:

CHAIR G. HUBBARD	VICE-CHAIR K. EICHER	SEC. J. MARLER
E. Snyder	J. Towslee	T. Douglas
N. Brittle	H. Dawson	D. McKinney
E. Daniels	V. Perz	J. Leslie
J. Green	D. Shannon	N. Ballinger
J. Crowther	J. Freeman	S. Winett
N. Walsh	S. Wadsworth	R.T. Turner
C. Cottrell	VDOE Liaison B. McGonagill	

Chair Hubbard brought words of welcome and introduction to all members, and noted that the VACEG serves as an information-gathering, information-sharing committee. Minutes from the last VACEG meeting were read. N. Walsh moved approval of the minutes and T. Douglas seconded. The minutes were approved.

Presentation of the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Report

Chair Hubbard called for Past VACEG Chair T. Douglas to present the report which was presented by VACEG leaders to the Virginia Board of Education on July, 26, 2001.

VACEG formed three subcommittees to conduct the committee work for 2000-2001.

- 1) Best Practices
- 2) Standards of Quality/Standards of Accreditation
- 3) Governor's Schools

Past VACEG Chair T. Douglas shared other pertinent information from the report.

J. Leslie moved that VACEG voice appreciation for the work put into the VACEG report which was presented to the Virginia Board of Education, especially since Board Chair K. Schroder asked State Superintendent Dr. DeMary to look into the information presented in the VACEG report. The motion on expressing appreciation carried.

### Presentation of the Department of Education Report

B. McGonagill presented the VDOE report.

#### *Best Practices Committee Recommendations*

- Establish a subcommittee within VACEG for 2001-2003 to examine the relationship between general education and gifted education
- Continue to collect and publish statewide data through the Annual Report of Services for Gifted students in the following areas:
  - \* identification procedures and results
  - \* continuum of services
  - \* teacher training
- Analyze published data from the Annual Report of Services for Gifted Students to make recommendations to provide information and support to local school divisions
- Provide support for the establishment of a peer review structure for the regular and systematic evaluation of gifted education programs

#### *Standards of Quality and Standards of Accreditation*

- Monitor relationship of Standards of Learning tests and gifted learners through the Annual Report of Services for Gifted Students
- Monitor endorsement of administrators of gifted education programs through the Annual Report of Services for Gifted Students
- Monitor training and endorsement of gifted education resource teachers and staff development for classroom teachers through the Annual Report of Services for Gifted Students
- Review efforts to increase regional support for staff development in gifted education; such support might be provided through the Governor's Best Practices Centers or through the Technical Training and Assistance Centers

#### *Governor's Schools Committee Recommendations*

- Continue to support structured evaluation processes for Academic-Year, Summer Residential, and Summer Regional Governor's Schools to maintain the quality of these programs
- Survey school divisions that have not submitted nominees to the Summer Residential Governor's schools to determine reasons why students from these divisions are not nominated
- Continue to analyze and evaluate the effectiveness of the funding formula for state and local aid to Academic-Year Governor's School programs
- Continue to analyze and provide information indicating the impact of the change in funding procedures on access of students to Summer Residential Governor's School programs
- Continue to support the effort to increase the number of students and school divisions with access to Academic-Year, Summer Residential, and Summer Regional Governor's Schools

#### *2001 Summer Residential Governor's Schools*

Summary of nominations submitted by school divisions to the Summer Residential Governor's School Program in 1993 and in 2001 indicated declining participation. In 1993, with full state funding, 97 percent of school divisions participated. In 2001, with partial state funding, the number of divisions participating declined.

Chair Hubbard thanked B. McGonagill for the report and commended the completeness of the information in the report. T. Douglas noted that Virginia's governorship would be changing, and the chair of the Virginia Board of Education would also be changing as a result of the upcoming elections. VACEG members working together can help keep VACEG on track.

### Reactions to State Report

Three pivotal areas emerged from the VDOE report for VACEG to address:

- Establish a Bylaws Committee to review VACEG bylaws for nominating and approving nominations of new VACEG committee members
- Chair Hubbard appointed K. Eicher as **Bylaws Committee** chair. VACEG members who will assist K. Eicher include J. Leslie, D. McKinney, and N. Walsh. Establish a membership review committee to nominate new committee members and review applications.
- Chair Hubbard appointed T. Douglas to chair the **Nominations/Applications Committee**. VACEG members who will assist T. Douglas include C. Cottrell, J. Crowther, and J. Green.

Chair Hubbard asked VACEG committee members to consider which meeting of the four scheduled VACEG meetings to count as a tentative meeting, due to the reduction in funding for VACEG expenses. VACEG meetings scheduled for the 2001-2002 school year include September, 21, 2001 December 7, 2001 February 15, 2002 and April 19, 2002. VACEG members decided to make the December 7, 2001, meeting tentative.

#### Report from Professional Organizations

Chair Hubbard asked D. Shannon to share information and perspective about the Virginia Schools Superintendent's Association. D. Shannon reported that VACEG has changed, and that the superintendent's association has changed, also. Together, both groups can work to assess resources and their best use. D. Shannon shares VACEG report information with the superintendent's association so they can understand more about the situations related to gifted education across Virginia.

Chair Hubbard altered the lunch schedule to provide time for VACEG members to interact with one another and share information about the workings of the committee. The committee recessed for lunch and discussion.

#### Establishing Subcommittees

Chair Hubbard called the committee back to order to collect concerns and ideas that came out of the discussions and ideas that were shared during the luncheon. Ideas and concerns were written on notes that were ordered into categories. The written ideas might be the ideas that VACEG would work on during the next two years. Written responses included several idea categories for possible study.

- Professional development for educators relative to gifted education
- Development of a gifted resource guide for school divisions
- Development of a self-assessment document
- Collection of data and data analysis for gifted education
- Screening for students in grades K-4
- Funding issues related to gifted education plans

VACEG could make a recommendation about funding for Governor's Schools. VACEG could extend a vision of what Best Practices of gifted education are and pull in Governor's Schools as examples.

Chair Hubbard noted that three trends and a subtrend seemed to emerge from these ideas.

- 1) The need to revise the Virginia Plan for Gifted Education
- 2) The two charges: that VACEG look at (a) assessment issues and (b) staff development issues
- 3) The need for VACEG to look at K-3 identification for gifted education  
[Is K-3 identification really a part of the Best Practices?]

The committee divided into two groups to discuss committee needs and to share information. Pertinent information will be sent to members before the next VACEG meeting.

#### Reports from Professional Organizations and Subcommittee

N. Ballinger spoke about the VAG 2001 Conference in Williamsburg. Temporary chairs of subcommittees shared information from committee discussions.

#### Adjournment

Chair Hubbard adjourned the VACEG meeting at 2:30 p.m.

Motion to accept the minutes as amended made by N. Walsh; J. Leslie seconded. Minutes were approved as amended on December 7, 2001.